recommendations included in recent ACRS reports and letters.

11:45 a.m.–12 p.m.: Subcommittee Report (Open)—The Committee will hear a report by the Chairman of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) regarding Draft NUREG–1855, ''Guidance on the Treatment of Uncertainties Associated with PRAs in Risk-Informed Decisionmaking,'' that was discussed during the meeting on December 19, 2007.

1 p.m.–3 p.m.: Draft ACRS Report on the NRC Safety Research Program (Open)—The Committee will discuss the draft ACRS report to the Commission on the NRC Safety Research Program.

3:15 p.m.–7 p.m.: Preparation of ACRS Reports (Open)—The Committee will discuss proposed ACRS reports.

Saturday, February 9, 2008, Conference Room T–2B3, Two White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland

7:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.: Draft ACRS Report on the NRC Safety Research Program (Open)—The Committee will continue its discussion of the draft ACRS report on the NRC Safety Research Program.

9:45 a.m.–1 p.m.: Preparation of ACRS Reports (Open)—The Committee will continue its discussion of proposed ACRS reports.

1 p.m.–1:30 p.m.: Miscellaneous (Open)—The Committee will discuss matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACRS meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 26, 2007 (72 FR 54695). In accordance with those procedures, oral or written views may be presented by members of the public, including representatives of the nuclear industry. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during the open portions of the meeting. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Cognizant ACRS staff named below five days before the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made to allow necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during the meeting may be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for this purpose may be obtained by contacting the Cognizant ACRS staff prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACRS meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should check with the Cognizant ACRS staff if such rescheduling would result in major inconvenience.

In accordance with Subsection 10(d) (Pub.L. 92–463), I have determined that it may be necessary to close portions of this meeting noted above to discuss and protect information classified as proprietary to BWROG, and their contractors pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), and information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B).

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, as well as the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting Mr. Girija S. Shukla, Cognizant ACRS staff (301–415–6855), between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., (ET). ACRS meeting agenda, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are available through the NRC Public Document Room at *pdr@nrc.gov*, or by calling the PDR at 1–800–397–4209, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS) which is accessible from the NRC Web site at *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html* or *http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/* (ACRS & ACNW Mtg schedules/agendas).

Video teleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACRS meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACRS meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACRS Audio Visual Technician (301–415–8066), between 7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., (ET), at least 10 days before the meeting to ensure the availability of this service.

Individuals or organizations requesting this service will be responsible for telephone line charges and for providing the equipment and facilities that they use to establish the video teleconferencing link. The availability of video teleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

Dated: January 17, 2008.

Annette Vietti-Cook,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. E8–1189 Filed 1–23–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Safety Research Program; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Safety Research Program will hold a meeting on February 5, 2008, Room T–2B1, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Tuesday, February 5, 2008—9:30 a.m. Until the Conclusion of Business

The Subcommittee will discuss the scope of long-term research the agency needs to consider. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Members of the public desiring to provide oral statements and/or written comments should notify the Designated Federal Official, Dr. Hossein P. Nourbakhsh (Telephone: 301–415–5622) five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Electronic recordings will be permitted. Detailed procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACRS meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 26, 2007 (72 FR 54695).

Further information regarding this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (ET). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual at least two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda.

Dated: January 15, 2008.

Charles G. Hammer,

Acting Chief, Reactor Safety Branch.

[FR Doc. E8–1073 Filed 1–23–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/DS–291]

WTO Dispute Settlement Proceedings Regarding Measures of the European Communities Affecting the Approval and Marketing of Biotech Products

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (''USTR'') is providing notice that on January 17, 2008, the United States submitted to the World Trade Organization (''WTO'') a request for authorization to suspend WTO concessions and other obligations with respect to the European Communities (''EC'') in an amount equal to the level of nullification and impairment resulting from EC non-compliance with the WTO recommendations and rulings. Under a sequencing agreement with the EC, that request will be referred to arbitration and the arbitration will be suspended while the United States and EC continue to try to resolve this dispute and related matters. To prepare for the possibility that the arbitration is resumed and the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (''DSB'') authorizes the United States to suspend WTO concessions with respect to the EC, USTR is inviting written comments on action that USTR should take to exercise such an authorization. In particular, USTR seeks written comments with respect to the specific products of the EC or EC member States, and/or with respect to the specific member States of the EC, that should be subject to a suspension of WTO concessions, such as through increases of rates of duty above current rates.

DATES: Comments are requested to be submitted on or before March 21, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted either (i) electronically, to *FR0805@ustr.eop.gov,* with ''EC-Biotech Dispute'' in the subject line, or (ii) by fax, to Sandy McKinzy at 202–395–3640, with a confirmation copy sent electronically to the e-mail address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Clarkson, Director, Agricultural Affairs, (202) 395–6127, or William Busis, Associate General Counsel and Chair, Section 301 Committee, (202) 395–3150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

EC-Biotech Dispute

USTR has previously provided notice and requested public comment regarding the establishment on August 29, 2003, of a WTO panel at the request of the United States to examine EC measures affecting the approval and marketing of biotech products. See 69 FR 11,927.

The WTO Panel issued its report on September 29, 2006. The Panel agreed with the United States that the disputed measures of the EC, Austria, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, and Luxembourg are inconsistent with the obligations set out in the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (''SPS Agreement''). In particular:

—The Panel found that the EC adopted a de facto, across-the-board moratorium on the final approval of biotech products, starting in 1999 up through the time the panel was established in August 2003.

—The Panel found that the EC had presented no scientific or regulatory justification for the moratorium, and thus that the moratorium resulted in ''undue delays'' in violation of the EC's obligations under the SPS Agreement.

—The Panel also identified specific, WTO-inconsistent ''undue delays'' with regard to 24 of the 27 pending product applications that were listed in the U.S. panel request.

—The Panel found that the bans adopted by six EC member States on biotech products approved in the EC prior to the moratorium were not supported by scientific evidence and were thus inconsistent with obligations under the SPS Agreement.

The DSB adopted the panel report on November 21, 2006. At the meeting of the DSB held on December 19, 2006, the EC notified the DSB that the EC intended to implement the recommendations and rulings of the DSB in the dispute, and stated that it would need a reasonable period of time for implementation. On June 21, 2007, the United States notified the DSB that it had agreed with the EC on a one-year period of time for implementation, to end on November 21, 2007. The United States subsequently notified the DSB that it had agreed with the EC to extend the implementation period to January 11, 2008.

On January 17, 2008, the United States submitted to the DSB a request for authorization to suspend WTO concessions and other obligations with respect to the EC on an annual basis in an amount equal to the annual level of nullification and impairment resulting from EC non-compliance with DSB recommendations and rulings. Under a sequencing agreement with the EC, that request will be referred to arbitration and the arbitration will be suspended while the United States and EC continue to try to resolve this dispute and related matters. The United States will periodically evaluate EC progress toward normalizing biotech trade against a set of benchmarks and timelines. If the United States decides to pursue WTO proceedings on the EC's compliance, then pursuant to that agreement the United States will file a formal consultation request with the EC, followed by a request for the establishment of a WTO compliance panel. Should the compliance panel find that the EC has not complied with DSB recommendations and rulings, upon request of the United States the arbitration will proceed. Once the arbitrator has issued its award, the United States will be entitled to receive from the DSB the authorization to suspend concessions in accordance with the award.

Procedures for Exercising WTO Authorization To Suspend Trade Concessions

The practice of USTR, in pursuing WTO authorization to suspend trade concessions on particular products, is to publish a broad preliminary product list and ask for public comments on the products to be included on a final retaliation list. This current notice is not intended to replace a notice publishing and seeking comments on a preliminary product list. Rather, the public comments received in response to this current notice will be used as input in the development of a preliminary list of specific products and of specific EC member States. The preliminary list will not necessarily include all products or EC member States suggested in response to this notice, nor will the preliminary list be limited to such products or EC member States.

Public Comment: Requirements for Submissions

To prepare for the possibility that the WTO arbitration is resumed and the DSB authorizes the United States to suspend WTO concessions with respect to the EC, USTR is seeking written comments on action that USTR should take to exercise such an authorization. In particular, USTR seeks written comments with respect to the specific products of the EC or of one or more EC member States, and/or with respect to specific member States of the EC, that should be subject to a suspension of WTO concessions and related obligations, such as through increases of rates of duty above current rates. If commenters suggest suspension of WTO concessions or related obligations with respect to specific products, the comments should identify the specific headings or subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States in which such products are classified. Commenters are requested to explain why the suspension with respect to particular products or with respect to particular EC member States would be effective in

terms of encouraging a favorable resolution of the EC-Biotech dispute.

Persons submitting comments may either send one copy by fax to Sandy McKinzy at 202–395–3640, or transmit a copy electronically to *FR0805@ustr.eop.gov,* with ''EC-Biotech Dispute'' in the subject line. For documents sent by fax, USTR requests that the submitter provide a confirmation copy electronically. USTR encourages the submission of documents in Adobe PDF format, as attachments to an electronic mail. Interested persons who make submissions by electronic mail should not provide separate cover letters; information that might appear in a cover letter should be included in the submission itself. Similarly, to the extent possible, any attachments to the submission should be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

Comments must be in English. A person requesting that information contained in a comment submitted by that person be treated as confidential business information must certify that such information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the submitter. Confidential business information must be clearly designated as such and the submission must be marked ''Business Confidential'' at the top and bottom of the cover page and each succeeding page.

Information or advice contained in a comment submitted, other than business confidential information, may be determined by USTR to be confidential in accordance with section 135(g)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(g)(2)). If the submitter believes that information or advice may qualify as such, the submitter—

(1) Must clearly so designate the information or advice;

(2) Must clearly mark the material as ''Submitted in Confidence'' at the top and bottom of the cover page and each succeeding page; and

(3) Is encouraged to provide a non-confidential summary of the information or advice.

USTR will maintain a file of non-confidential comments received in response to this notice, accessible to the public, in the USTR Reading Room, which is located at 1724 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508. An appointment to review the public file (Docket No. WTO/DS–291) may be made by calling the USTR Reading Room at (202) 395–6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

William Busis,

Chair, Section 301 Committee.

[FR Doc. E8–1143 Filed 1–23–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190–W8–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549–0213.

Extension: Rule 19b–7 and Form 19b–7; OMB Control No. 3235–0553; SEC File No. 270–495.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

• (Rule 19b–7 (17 CFR 240.19b–7) and Form 19b–7 (17 CFR 249.822)— Filings with respect to proposed rule changes submitted pursuant to Section 19(b)(7) of the Act.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) (''Exchange Act'') provides a framework for self-regulation under which various entities involved in the securities business, including national securities exchanges and national securities associations (collectively, self-regulatory organizations or ''SROs''), have primary responsibility for regulating their members or participants. The role of the Commission in this framework is primarily one of oversight: the Exchange Act charges the Commission with supervising the SROs and assuring that each complies with and advances the policies of the Exchange Act.

The Exchange Act was amended by the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000 (''CFMA''). Prior to the CFMA, federal law did not allow the trading of futures on individual stocks or on narrow-based stock indexes (collectively, ''security futures products''). The CFMA removed this restriction and provides that trading in security futures products would be regulated jointly by the Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The Exchange Act requires all SROs to submit to the SEC any proposals to amend, add, or delete any of their rules. Certain entities (Security Futures Product Exchanges) would be national securities exchanges only because they trade security futures products. Similarly, certain entities (Limited Purpose National Securities Associations) would be national securities associations only because their members trade security futures products. The Exchange Act, as amended by the CFMA, established a procedure for Security Futures Product Exchanges and Limited Purpose National Securities Associations to provide notice of proposed rule changes relating to certain matters.[1] Rule 19b–7 and Form 19b–7 implemented this procedure.

The collection of information is designed to provide the Commission with the information necessary to determine, as required by the Exchange Act, whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act and the rules thereunder. The information is used to determine if the proposed rule change should remain in affect or abrogated.

The respondents to the collection of information are SROs. Five respondents file an average total of 12 responses per year. Each response takes approximately 17.25 hours to complete, which corresponds to an estimated annual response burden of 207 (12 responses × 17.25 hours) hours. The average cost per response is $4,607.25 (17.25 hours multiplied by an average hourly rate of $267.09). The resultant total related cost of compliance for these respondents is approximately $55,287 per year (12 responses × $4,607.25 per response).

Compliance with Rule 19b–7 is mandatory. Information received in response to Rule 19b–7 shall not be kept confidential; the information collected is public information.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimates of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity

[1] These matters are higher margin levels, fraud or manipulation, recordkeeping, reporting, listing standards, or decimal pricing for security futures products; sales practices for security futures products for persons who effect transactions in security futures products; or rules effectuating the obligation of Security Futures Product Exchanges and Limited Purpose National Securities Associations to enforce the securities laws. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(7)(A).